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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Previously Presented) A database system comprising:

a database in which data has been stored accessibly;

a search device for accessing the database in accordance with an applied search

command and searching data that has been stored in said database;

a command execution device, to which a command is entered, for applying a search

command to said search device in accordance with this entered command; and

a first interface for separably and directly connecting ,without via a network, said

search device and said command execution device.

2.   (Original) The system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a storage device for storing data readably;

a storage controller for accessing said storage device and reading data that has been

stored in said storage device or writing data to said storage device in accordance with an

applied read/write command; and

a second interface for separably connecting said storage controller and said command

execution device;

said command execution device applying a read/write command to said storage

controller in accordance with the entered command.

3.   (Canceled)

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4.   (Previously Presented) A database server comprising:

a first receiving device for receiving a search command transmitted via a network;

a search device for searching the database based upon the search command received

by said first receiving device;

a first determining device for determining whether the search command, which has

been received by said first receiving device, can be transmitted to another database server;

a transmitting device for transmitting the received search command to said another

database server when it is determined that the received search command can be transmitted to

said another database server by said first determining device;

a second receiving device for receiving data, which represents search results,

transmitted from said another database server in accordance with transmission of the search

command to said another database server by said transmitting device; and

an output device for outputting, in mutually correlated form, data representing search

results obtained by the search by said search device and data representing search results

received by said second receiving device.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method of controlling operation of a database server

comprising:

receiving a search command transmitted via a network;

searching a database based upon the received search command;

determining whether the received search command can be transmitted to another

database server;

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        transmitting the received search command to said another database server when it is

determined that the received search command can be transmitted to said another database

server;

        receiving data, which represents search results, transmitted from said another database

server in accordance with transmission of the search command to said another database

server; and

        outputting, in mutually correlated form, data representing search results obtained by

the search and data representing received search results.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said search device is

replaceable by a second search device upon separation ~~from said command execution device.~~

of said search device from said first interface, and

        upon replacement of said search device by said second search device, said first

interface separably and directly connects, without via a network, said second search device

and said command execution unit.

7.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6, wherein said search device

employs a search technique different than a search technique of said second search device.

8.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a

relational database management system containing attribute information corresponding to

said data, wherein said relational database management system is searchable by said search

device.

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9.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a

command receiving device for receiving the entered command from a client.

10.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a

command resending device for transmitting the entered command to another database server.

11.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, wherein said storage

controller is replaceable by a second storage controller upon separation from said command

execution device.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said second storage

controller is different than said storage controller.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, further comprising an

expression-format converter for generating data having a desired expression format when it is

determined that data having the desired expression format is not stored in the database.

14.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein said expression-

format converter is separably connected to said command execution device by said second

interface.

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15.   (Previously Presented) The database server according to claim 4, wherein the search

command is accompanied by data for determining whether the search command can be

transmitted to said another database server;

     said first determining device determining whether the search command can be

transmitted based upon the accompanying data.

16.   (Previously Presented) The database server according to claim 4, further comprising:

     a second determining device for determining whether the data, which has an

expression format indicated by the received search command by said first receiving device, is

stored in the database;

     a generating device for generating the data having the expression format when it is

determined that the data having the expression format is not stored in the database by said

second determining device; and

     a storing device for storing the data generated by the generating device in the

database.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of controlling operation of a database server

according to claim 5, wherein said determining whether the search command can be

transmitted to another database server is based upon data accompanying the search command

for determining whether the search command can be transmitted.

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18.   (Previously Presented) The method of controlling operation of a database server

according to claim 5, further comprising:

        determining whether the data, which has an expression format indicated by the

received search command, is stored in the database;

        generating data having the expression format when it is determined that the data

having the expression format is not stored in the database; and

        storing the generated data in the database.

19.   (Previously Presented) A database server comprising:

        a means for receiving a search command transmitted via a network;

        a means for searching the database based upon the received search command:

        a means for determining whether the received search command can be transmitted to

another database server;

        a means for transmitting the received search command to said another database server

when it is determined that the received search command can be transmitted to said another

database server;

        a means for receiving data, which represents search results, transmitted from said

another database server in accordance with transmission of the received search command to

said another database server; and

        a means for outputting, in mutually correlated form, data representing search results

obtained by the search by said search device and data representing received search results.

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